

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-06 COA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 CG-00 EB-11 COME-00

INT-08 SCI-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /172 W

----- 063565

R 071350Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9132

INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17618

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, IC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG/GOI FISHERIES DISPUTE

REF: A. BONN 15819; B. REYKJAVIK 1342

1. SUMMARY. THE FRG/GOI FISHERIES DISPUTE REMAINS DEADLOCKED ON THE ISSUE OF THE GOI'S DEMAND FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FRG FACTORY SHIPS FROM ANY FISHING ZONE. THE FRG IS AWAITING SOME SIGNAL OF GOI FLEXIBILITY, MAINTAINING THAT NO BRANDT TO JOHANNESSON INVITATION WOULD BE OFFERED WITHOUT IT. END SUMMARY.

2. AN FRG FONOFF OFFICIAL TOLD US THERE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY NO PROGRESS IN RESOLVING THE FRG/GOI FISHERIES DISPUTE SINCE THE DEPARTURE OF THE FRG TECHNICAL TEAM FROM REYKJAVIK NOVEMBER 22-23 AFTER INCONCLUSIVE TALKS AS REPORTED BY REFTEL B. THE MAIN ISSUE REMAINING CONTINUES TO BE THE GOI'S DEMAND THAT

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THE FRG ELIMINATE THEIR FACTORY SHIPS FROM ANY AGREED

FISHING ZONE. OUR SOURCE REITERATED THE FRG VIEW (SEE PARA 1 OF REFTEL B) THAT THIS ISSUE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE UK PROBLEM SINCE ELIMINATION OF FRG FACTORY SHIPS WOULD REDUCE THEIR TONNAGE BY 70 PERCENT, AND FOR THIS REASON IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG. THE FRG, HOWEVER, HAS INDICATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE. THE ISSUES OF CATCH SIZE AND FISHERY ZONE BOUNDARIES, ALTHOUGH UNRESOLVED, ARE NOT INSURMOUNTABLE ACCORDING TO THIS OFFICIAL.

2. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH AN INVITATION TO PRIMIN JOHANNESSON FROM BRANDT WAS BEING CONSIDERED, IT WAS NOT LIKELY TO BE OFFERED UNTIL THERE WAS SOME INDICATION OF FLEXIBILITY BY ICELAND ON THE FACTORY SHIP ISSUE. BRANDT HAD MET WITH THE ICELANDIC NEGOTIATORS THE LAST TIME THEY WERE IN BONN BUT THAT MEETING DIDN'T PRODUCE ANY PROGRESS.

3. OUR SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE FRG, LUCKILY, IS NOT UNDER SUBSTANTIAL PRESS OR INDUSTRY PRESSURE ON THIS ISSUE EVEN THOUGH ICELAND HAS BEGUN ONCE AGAIN TO HARASS FRG SHIPS BY ATTEMPTING TO CUT THEIR LINES. THESE INCIDENTS ARE THE FIRST SINCE LAST SUMMER WHEN A GUNBOAT FIRED ON AN FRG SHIP.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, FISHING DISPUTES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FISHING BOATS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN17618
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731239/aaaabclm.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. BONN 15819; B. REYKJAVIK 1342
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <20-Sep-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG/GOI FISHERIES DISPUTE
TAGS: PBOR, IC, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005